



THE NOE VALLEY VOICE

— Explosion Aftermath —

Sifting Through The Rubble on Fountain Street

By Steve Steinberg

In writing about the ruins of Tony Marez's house, and the ruins of Virginia Giusti's house, you have to resist all the clichés and platitudes used to describe bombed-out or fire-gutted buildings. They can't possibly convey the upheaval at the corner of 25th and Fountain Streets in upper Noe Valley. You have to go up there and look at the scene to get some idea of the intensity of the explosion and fire that destroyed two homes and damaged numerous others in the early morning of March 29.

Although an investigation into the disaster is continuing, the search for answers has narrowed down to two suspected causes: gasoline fumes from a car in the Marez garage; and a natural gas leak from PG&E pipes. The latter possibility is obviously the most disturbing, and late last month neighbors met with PG&E and fire department officials to express their concern about the chances of a replay of events.

Meanwhile, the victims of the explosion, all of whom miraculously survived without serious injury, found themselves picking up the pieces, trying to rebuild their lives after having lost all they owned.

A Narrow Escape

"We're scattered like a deck of cards," said Tony Marez, owner of the leveled house at 95 Fountain St. Marez, who will turn 60 this month, is living with his wife, Irma, and their 4-year-old daughter at the home of his sister-in-law in Redwood City. His wife's three other children by another marriage are split up and staying with friends and a pastor in San Francisco.

Marez had been sleeping fitfully the night of the explosion. Around 4 a.m. the blast awakened him. "Something hit me in my groin," he said, "and a big blast at the same time.... All I could think of was, get the front door open."



Photo by Irene Kane

Irma and Tony Marez were able to walk away from the site of the big blast with their kids and their lives, but nothing else. As the rubble gets removed, the cause is being probed by PG&E, the San Francisco Fire Department, and private investigators.

Marez, who at first assumed it was an earthquake, grabbed his wife and youngest child and made for the front door. Wading through rubble, he found the door wedged shut and saw fire coming from the basement. He finally managed to pry the door open, and ran down the steps towards the front gate, blown away by the explosion. He had feared that the gate, padlocked to fend off burglars, would block his family's escape route.

Marez looked back to see the wall of his house collapsing. "One second more and I wouldn't be telling this story."

The Marezes' three other children had also gotten out by this time. None of the family sustained serious injury, although one child has since had nose bleeds and the 4-year-old has suffered from earaches, Marez said. He and his wife have had problems sleeping and have been nervous and jumpy. The family lost two Italian greyhounds as a result of the fire. One never got out and the other died of

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— Little Italy, Bakers of Paris Feel the Heat —

Pickets March on 24th St.

By Jeff Kaliss

There's a big map of San Francisco on the wall of the union hall down at Local 2 of the Hotel & Restaurant Employees and Bartenders Union. Stickpins with little colored flags show the nature and number of union activities in the city: orange for organizing drives, red for picket lines, yellow for negotiations, and black for elections pending. Most of the flags are clustered at the top of the map around Fisherman's Wharf. Most of them are also yellow, testimony to the power of the proletariat in the midst of a tourist trap.

But one little yellow flag waves alone in the middle of the map at 24th and Castro Streets. That's where negotiations are in process with Little Italy, likely to become Noe Valley's first unionized restaurant.

A month ago the flag was red, and union organizers Jaime Flores and Kevin O'Connor were spending their evenings walking the picket line in front of the popular eatery. They were joined by some of the 20 Little Italy employees who had indicated, in a March 23 "card check," that they wanted to affiliate with the union.

The leaflets the pickets distributed to passersby touted the advantages of unionization: "a bona fide health and dental plan, job security, grievance procedure, job descriptions, and [most importantly] protection." They also accused the restaurant's owners, Mel Lefer and Jack Kreitzman, of laying off five union supporters in retaliation against their efforts to organize.

Inside, Lefer sat personally greeting those customers who crossed the picket line, some of whom he'd phoned in hopes of restoring the business which the pickets had reduced to 50 percent of normal.

He acknowledged that he had indeed laid off two waiters, a waitress, a cashier, and a cook on March 30, but he blamed his cutbacks on the fire department's insistence that he hold his seating to the posted capacity of 49. He'd been forced, he said, to remove some 15 seats from the "pit" area at the front of the restaurant and install in their place a portable bar and expanded waiting area.

However, when asked why he confined his layoffs to union supporters, Lefer admitted that he was "angry and frustrated" at their having invited the union to one of his regular staff meetings the week before.

"I felt I was betrayed, stabbed in the back," he recalled. "It was as if my wife had come up and told me she had a lover. I just couldn't believe it."

He had prided himself on having

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Photo by Irene Kane

Voice reporter Kit Cameron looks ahead to the results of gentrifying her complexion at Pattie Gerrie's Studio.

Facing up to the 1980s

By Kit Cameron

The 1980s has brought on a new trend in facial fashion. Mascara and eyeliner are back, and the scrubbed visage of the past two decades has given way to a slick, sophisticated look.

This may well be true, but can a 32-year-old veteran of the defiant '60s and purist '70s undergo a "makeover" and still remain politically correct?

Eager to answer that burning question, Voice photographer Irene Kane and I set out to personally investigate three establishments in Noe Valley now offering facials and make-up consultation.

Feel Like Being Poached?

We began our research with a visit to Pattie Gerrie's studio, Skin Care for the

1980's, which moved to Noe Valley last year.

A trip to Pattie's studio is a sybaritic experience. Sunlight pours in the south window and music drifts in from the waiting room, with counterpoint provided by "That Bird," a canary who loves equally to accompany Romeo Void as Beethoven. The prevailing color in her workroom is celestial violet. A deer's head sporting pink glasses gazes at customers, and stuffed lynx in the hall flaunts a blue feather boa.

Pattie likes to fuss over her clients, laying them out on a table covered with a violet flowered sheet. A well made-up face, she explains, needs a good surface to start with. She examines each minute pore, keeping up a running commentary as she thoroughly cleans and steams my

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EDITOR:

This could be a letter celebrating the survival of, or mourning the loss of, yet another endangered species [in reference to "Butcher's Dilemma: How to Slice a Victorian," April, 1983]. Ver Brugge's is one of those rare and precious examples of how pleasurable it can be doing business with real people, who really care for their customers, provide real service with a real smile, and really make shopping a real pleasure. If we lose them, then there really goes the real neighborhood. They sell food for the belly with real heart. I hope they're still with us. If not, I will be buying my vitamins and tofu elsewhere—how about you? I mean really!

Monk
Founder, V.V.B.R.L.F.
(Viva Ver Brugge's
Reality Liberation Front)
Chattanooga Street

EDITOR:

Rumors have been circulating the Streets of Noe Valley that the Friends of Noe Valley were opposing the move of Ver Brugge's butcher shop across the street because of their high meat prices. For the benefit of those capable of believing such a rumor, I would like to say that it is not true.

Fundamental to the character of 24th Street is the maintenance of the residential-commercial balance. Twenty-fourth Street and San Francisco for that matter cannot afford to lose a single square foot of residential space. Mr. Ver Brugge's initial proposal would have added an office and reduced the residential unit to a mere studio. For these reasons the Friends found this proposal unacceptable.

The Friends are quite aware of the quality of service Ver Brugge's renders to the Noe Valley community. We would be the last to want to see Ver Brugge's leave. However, the residential character and housing issues involved were of paramount importance.

As it stands, Mr. Ver Brugge's latest proposal was to create two residential units on the second floor with his butcher shop on the ground floor. The Friends of Noe Valley unanimously supported this proposal and have so expressed ourselves to the Department of City Planning. We wish Mr. Ver Brugge all the luck in his move across the street.

Mark Cohen
Friends of Noe Valley

ELECTORAL ELIGIBILITY

EDITOR:

Your recall article in the March issue of the *Voice* mentioned that if Feinstein lost the recall election, she would be ineligible to run for public office for two years.

The eligibility of a candidate to run and a voter to vote in a San Francisco election has always amazed me. At one time, it required a five-year residency (1940s) before a candidate could run for the office of mayor or supervisor and a voting record of voting at the polls one year previous to taking office if elected.

For a voter, one-year residency was needed before the voter was allowed to vote.

Under the present system, anyone—corporate president or tramp, hobo or bum—is allowed to vote in a San Francisco election with proof of 24-hour residency.

Marjorie D. Martin
Former candidate for supervisor,
35-year resident of S.F.
Diamond Street

PROUD OF GLEN PARK

EDITOR:

The Glen Park Parents' Association encourages Noe Valley parents to consider enrolling their children in Glen Park Elementary, a neighborhood public school with a progressive principal and fine teaching staff. Some people worry about putting their children in "public" school. However, each school is unique, and our school, bordering the Glen Park Canyon, provides a safe and peaceful environment in which to learn. While reflecting our city's ethnic, cultural and educational diversity, the quality of our school is evidenced in part by the marked improvement of its state testing scores.

Among the programs offered in our school is a Spanish Bilingual Program well known for its excellence. The program assists Spanish-speaking children to become literate in Spanish while they are learning English. An equal number of English-only children are included. These children begin at this young receptive age to learn a second language so beneficial for those who live and work in a diverse society.

The Gifted and Talented Education (G.A.T.E.) Program is for children who are screened for excellence in intellectual ability, specific academic ability, or high achievement beyond that of their chronological peers. The program is in a self-contained classroom and provides the special services and enrichment activities these children require. The G.A.T.E. classroom also houses the school computer, which is available to the other Glen Park children.

Glen Park is also home to two classes of younger children classified as Trainable Mentally Retarded (TMR). These delightful youngsters, while having separate programs and areas within the school, also add another dimension to the other children's life experience.

Another important feature of the school is the After School Program (ASP), which was founded by Glen Park parents in January, 1982. The program is administered and financed by parents and has proved to be a big success. It provides a wealth of enrichment through arts and crafts, puppet-making, classroom theater, story-telling, field trips, homework assistance, and outdoor play and recreation.

Glen Park parents are always welcome to observe and assist in the classroom. Should you be interested in enrolling your child, we encourage you to visit any or all of our different classrooms and programs. Please call the school office for more information.

Glen Park Parents' Association
Glen Park Elementary School
151 Lippard Ave.,
333-6388

FRIENDS OF DIANNE

EDITOR:

The Voters Information Pamphlet printed by the City and County of San Francisco listed our names as opposed to the recall and in support of Mayor Dianne Feinstein. We would like it known that we signed as individuals against the recall. Friends of Noe Valley, as a neighborhood association, does not make political endorsements and takes no particular stand for or against the mayor.

Jean Amos, President
Barbara Hopkins
H. Marcia Smolens
Friends of Noe Valley



THE NOE VALLEY VOICE
1021 Sanchez Street
San Francisco 94114

The Noe Valley Voice is an independent newspaper published monthly except in January and August. It is distributed free in Noe Valley and vicinity. Mail subscriptions are available at a cost of \$10/year (\$5/year for seniors).

The Noe Valley Voice is a member of Media Alliance and Artists in Print.

Editorial: 821-3324 (PM)

Distribution: 648-1913

Display Advertising:
Call Steve at 239-1114

Advertising Deadline for
June, 1983 issue: May 21

Editorial Deadline: May 20

Class Ads: See Page 19

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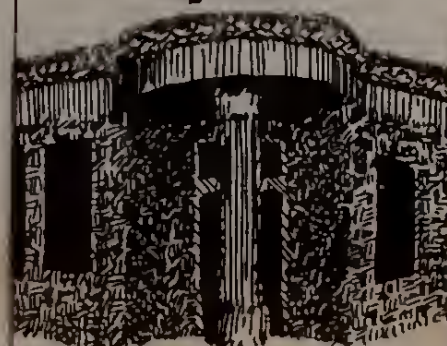
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The Right Whey

Cutting Through the Culture of Cheese

By Bob Morris

It was my biggest assignment since starting to work on the *Voice*: get the cheese for the editors' cocktail party—and nothing wrapped in individual slices. My whole career as a journalist depended on it. Consulting my Noe Valley Directory, I found the Cheese Company at 3893 24th St. near Sanchez.

Inside the store, my anxiety mounted. On a blackboard on the wall were hundreds of names, mainly in French. It looked more like the membership roll for the Legion of Honor than a cheese list. I told the woman behind the counter my dilemma, and when she learned I was from the *Voice*, I was whisked into the office of the big cheese herself, Joan Anderson.

"You've come to the right place," Anderson told me. "This is the oldest cheese store in San Francisco and has probably the largest selection." Self, I said to myself, here is a story.

Anderson, a local resident for 26 years, was going to City College when she learned the business was for sale 7½ years ago.

"I knew nothing about cheese," she said, "so I included in the contract a provision that I get 500 hours of study and three months of on-the-job training." A cheese whiz, she soon mastered the craft and graduated to teaching cheese courses at U.C. Berkeley Extension as well as offering monthly tastings for the public at her shop. Obviously, the public likes what it tastes—the store currently sells over two tons of cheese a month.

"We provide extensive training for our



Photo by Joel Abramson

Cheese Company owner Joan Anderson, shown here modeling the latest in butter advertising headwear, dispenses her culinary know-how along with free samples at her popular store.

employees," Anderson said, "although most have had experience in the cheese business." She introduced the store's manager, Paul Conway, himself a seven-year cheese veteran.

"Picking a cheese is simple," Anderson informed me. "We carry between 350 and 450 types of cheese, depending on the season, but there are only about a dozen different families." With pen in hand and my career hanging in the balance, I begged her to continue.

"To begin with," she said, "there's the Swiss types, like Gruyere, and the cheddars. They're our most popular varieties. Our oldest cheese is a three-year-old

Wisconsin cheddar. Fresh cheeses, like cream cheese and ricotta, are only aged for days.

"Then there's bland and mild, like Monterey Jack; Brie and Camembert; blue cheese, like Roquefort; grating cheese, like Parmesan.... Am I going too fast for you? There's goat cheese, sheep cheese, spiced cheese, like Boursin, monastery types, like French Port Salut, and strong cheese like Limburger. There's more, but that's basically it."

What would she recommend, then, for the continental palates of my editors—something to go with the champagne and caviar with which they routinely gorge

themselves.

"For champagne," Anderson said, "I'd recommend double- and triple-cremes, like Explorateur and St. Andre. For caviar, Italian Fontana." I heaved a sigh of relief as this burden was lifted from my shoulders.

"There's always somebody in the store that can match any wine with a cheese," Anderson informed me. "Don't be afraid to come in with questions." What's the most exotic cheese in the place, I wondered. "Probably a Vecherin Mont d'Or, a raw milk cheese aged in a wooden box surrounded by resin for two to three months."

Back in the store, the vast array of fromage seemed less intimidating, although it was sobering to think that the huge wheel of cheese in the window was worth more than my car.

I eavesdropped on some customers—a woman in a magenta jogging suit was sampling low-salt cheeses, in anticipation of a new diet. A rather suspicious-looking character was wrapping up a deal for a half-pound of Oregon Blue and an ounce of pot cheese. A notice announced a free tasting on May 14 for Camembert in pastry, with a recipe thrown in for good measure. Another sign advertised a 10 percent discount for seniors.

Joan Anderson asked if I had any more questions. I had to ask—I'd been wondering my whole life—why are there holes in Swiss cheese? "It's from gas pockets during the aging," she replied.

Gas due to aging—cheese is no different from the rest of us. □

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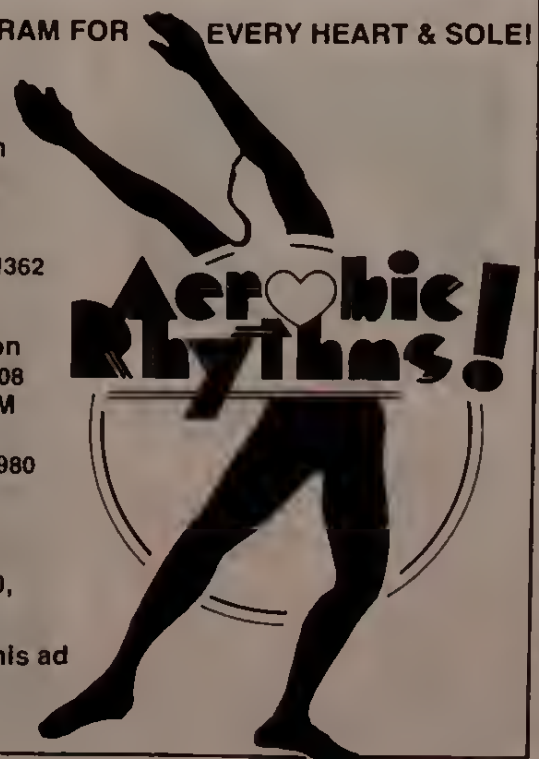
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• Explosion •

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hurns and shock two days later.

Tony Marez had lived in Noe Valley since 1948, when he bought his now-destroyed home through the G.I. bill. "It hurts me...the only home I've ever known," he says softly. The son of an immigrant farm laborer, he grew up in Ventura County. He remembers Noe Valley when there were no homes in the hills, when he could take his neighbors' kids out in his pick-up truck for drives in those hills, and everyone would sing "Take Me Out to the Ball Game."

Friends and neighbors have been "wonderful" to the Marez family. Marez, who owns the Latin American Club at 22nd and Valencia Streets, said he'd also received help from his fellow riders in the San Francisco Mounted Posse and the San Francisco Horsemen Association.

He plans to rebuild his house as soon as possible and has consulted with an architect about designing a Spanish-style home. Marez said he had some home insurance, but his attorney, Alexander Anolik, said it had inexplicably lapsed.

Escaping the Burning House

Like Marez, Virginia Giusti is a longtime resident of Noe Valley, having lived here since she was a toddler. She bought her house at 4650 25th St. in 1965 and made the final payment two years ago. "I had thought all my problems were over with," she said.

Giusti, 56 and a widow, was baby-sitting at her son's house in South San Francisco when the explosion hit. She learned what had happened at 4:15 a.m. when her granddaughter called and told her "the house is gone."

She still feels stunned over what occurred. "It's like I'm floating. I just can't believe this happened. It's hard to realize that everything would be gone."

Giusti, who is a concession stand manager at Candlestick Park, said she planned to rebuild her house with money from an insurance settlement and a bank loan. She has, however, hired an attorney to represent her in the event of legal action.

Staying at Giusti's house the night of the explosion were her son Donald, 29, her daughter Dana Simmons, 35, and Simmons' daughter Lisa, 14. All three escaped the burning house through upstairs windows. According to Simmons, her daughter injured an ankle bone as a result of the fall. Simmons, a graduate student at San Francisco State University, said she cut her hands on jagged glass and has therefore been unable to work as a typist. She said her worst moment came sometime after the fire when she heard from a friend that firemen had expected to find dead bodies in the rubble.

Simmons had nothing but praise for



Photo by Irene Kane

PG&E blames a parked car for the catastrophe, but the fire department and nearby residents are suspicious about leaks from 50-year-old gas mains.

her neighbors. "They grabbed us and took us into their homes." But her brother Donald experienced some unneighborly treatment the day after the fire when his partially burned car was towed away.

The Simmonses and Don Giusti are staying with friends while they look for new places to live. Their mother remains with her other son in South San Francisco. The occupants of 87 Fountain St. and 4644 25th St. have also been forced to make other living arrangements while their damaged homes are being repaired. Most residents of surrounding apartment buildings and condominiums had their windows blown out by the explosion.

Leaking Car or PG&E Pipes?

Although the evidence of the big explosion was clear enough, the source of the blast continued to be cloudy last month.

Marez's attorney said a report being prepared by independently hired investigators from the Lawrence Livermore Laboratory would confirm that natural gas leakage from nearby PG&E pipes had been responsible for the destruction. Anolik said that photos taken of the disaster showed it to be an "obvious gas explosion."

PG&E has consistently denied that leaking gas from its mains caused the ex-

plosion. Dennis Pooler, a spokesman for the utility, said PG&E's investigation pointed to "gasoline" coming from a car parked in Marez's garage as the culprit. He also defended the condition of PG&E mains in the area (some of which are said to be 50 years old) as well as the "bell joints" used to clamp sections of pipe together.

"We wouldn't deliberately leave defective equipment in place," he insisted, adding that PG&E crews had dug up pipes both in the neighborhood and in Marez's house after the fire and had found no links to the explosion.

Speculation about possible leaks had focused on the equipment, particularly the bell joints, which are not used on modern pipes.

Officials from the San Francisco Fire Department would not comment on the causes of the explosion until completing their investigative report expected early this month. But fire officials had initially speculated that leaking gas found at the corner of 25th and Hoffman Streets could have followed pipes into the Marez house and ultimately set off the explosion. The fire department placed overall damage to the area at \$360,000.

Could It Happen Again?

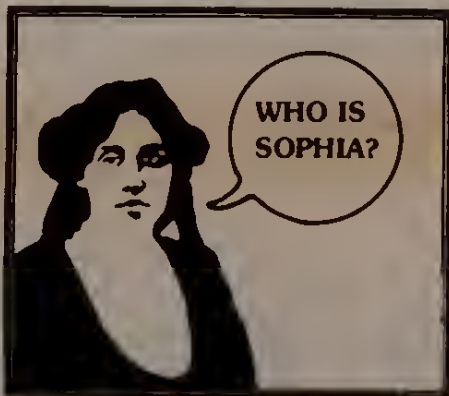
Neighborhood anxiety over the likelihood of another, similar catastrophe ran high last month, culminating in a meeting among area residents, the fire department and PG&E representatives. According to individuals who attended the meeting, a PG&E spokesperson admitted there had been natural gas leaks in the area but said they were of a minor, non-hazardous "group two" or "stage two" variety.

Claire Pilcher, of 471 Hoffman Ave., said that neighbors had directed so much hostility and mistrust against PG&E officials that fire department and utility representatives were unable to discuss fire and natural gas safety measures, the intended topic of the meeting. Pilcher added that many people left the discussion still not satisfied with PG&E's assurances of their safety.

Besides worrying about the chances of another explosion, residents of the area were also concerned about health and safety hazards posed by the debris at Fountain and 25th. One neighbor complained of animal "carcasses" in the rubble, but fire officials said they had been removed.

Marez's attorney said his client had already hired a contractor to begin clean-up operations. Virginia Giusti said she had experienced a certain amount of pressure from neighbors to clear her property and would do so as soon as she had obtained a permit from the fire department. After that, she wanted to come home.

"I hope to rebuild in the future and be back in the area where I belong." □



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Wheel of Peace

The peaceful folk at the Noe Valley Ministry want to spread the word about nuclear disarmament. They have designed a six-foot Tibetan prayer wheel which they will mount outside the Ministry during "Peace with Justice" week, May 22-29.

The public is invited to write messages of peace to be attached to the Peace Prayer Wheel and to participate in daily prayers for peace at 12:30 midday at 1021 Sanchez St. A special Peace Pentecost service starts off the week Sunday, May 22, at 10 a.m., and a Peace Sabbath services winds it up on Sunday, May 29, also at 10 a.m. Peace Sabbath is also known as Memorial Day weekend.

Amos and Ape Host Garbage Gala

Spring cleaning will have community meaning when the Friends of Noe Valley gather at the corner of Castro and Clipper Streets to dispose of excess clothes, clocks, cloissonés and other collectibles at their annual Dumpster Day, Saturday, May 14, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Come get rid of your stuff and/or acquire someone else's; it'll cost \$3 per carload for card-carrying Friends, \$5 for non-Friends, or \$6 to join Friends for a year (you figure it out).

Friends' President Jean Amos has foretold that the clean and unclean alike will be visited by a life-size gorilla at noon, so she suggests you come purchase a Friends' tee-shirt or sweatshirt prior to the advent of the anthropoid. Call Amos at 826-2044 if you want more details or guidance.



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SHORT TAKES



Photo by Charles Kennard

Mayor Dianne Feinstein was in high spirits as she helped present service awards at a March luncheon at Jamestown Community Center. The "60 Minutes" crew that was filming her every move could have had something to do with it, or perhaps she was just anticipating her regal recall victory April 26.

Big Daddy Visits the Valley

Tour de Force will settle at the Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St., for its premiere season of dramatic productions under the artistic direction of Andrea Gordon, a bi-coastal personality fresh from the Harold Clurman Theater in New York City.

The ensemble opens with Tennessee Williams' "Cat on a Hot Tin Roof," which plays Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights at 8:15 p.m. and Sunday afternoons at 2:30 p.m., May 5 through June 5 (except May 29). Tickets are \$6 seniors, students and TCCBA members; \$6.50 for others; or \$13 for all three of the season's shows (one play free). Call Gordon for details at 626-1192.

Pickles and Parents

Glen Park (the park not the neighborhood) will receive its annual invasion from the Pickle Family Circus on Memorial Day Weekend, May 28-30. Coming with the jokers, jugglers and jazz band are a myriad of food and game booths fronted by the Council of Parent Participation Nursery Schools, and a quilt hand-crafted by members of the Noe Valley Nursery School will be raffled.

Proceeds will help float the schools, and tickets and times may be obtained by calling 648-3942. Tickets cost \$2.50 for kids and seniors, \$4 for adults in advance, or 50 cents more at the circus door (at the park at the southern end of Chenery Street).

Act Against AIDS

Noe Valley resident Mark Feldman told us all we didn't know about AIDS and were afraid to ask in last month's Voice. Now Mayor Feinstein has declared this week (May 2-8) "AIDS Awareness Week," to focus attention and action on Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome, said to have reached epidemic proportions.

Earlier this week, a contingent marched from Castro to Market, paralleling similar marches in New York City and across the country "to memorialize those who have died from AIDS, show solidarity with those who have the disease, and demand that sufficient research funds be released to find the cause, the cure and the methods of preventing AIDS," according to a release from the Kaposi's Sarcoma Research and Education Foundation at 470 Castro St.

On Wednesday, May 4, the public will be invited to an informal forum at the Unitarian Universalist Church, 1187 Franklin St. at 7:30 p.m., and through-



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out the week everyone is encouraged to write their representatives and phone the White House at (202) 456-7639. You can find out more about the foundation at 864-4376.

Learn Your Lines

Did you view Uhu and wish you too could strut the stage in the Noe Valley Ministry? You can, as a participant in the San Francisco Ensemble Workshop's Summer Acting Classes, under the watch of Alexander Larsen, who directed last month's production of "Uhu Roi." Students will do physical warm-up, ensemble exercise, and monologue and scene study, and will be eligible at the close of the 12-week course for casting in Larsen's Advanced Production Workshop. Classes will be held Tuesdays from 8 to 10 p.m. starting May 10 at the Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St., and cost \$84 for the season. For more on this, call 921-8533.

Youth Needs You

Folks with free time are in demand to alleviate child abuse and get jobs for teenagers. The T.A.L.K. Line (Telephone Aid in Living with Kids) provides 24-hour telephone counseling and crisis intervention to deal with family problems which might threaten the well-being of a child. T.A.L.K. staff will train, supervise, and support persons willing to commit four hours a week for a year to their effort, if you'll call them at 474-7310.

The Mayor's Summer Jobs for Youth Program, which got 800 kids gainfully off the streets last year, wants help during its May 2-13 Phone Blitz of local employers. Please phone 885-4870 if you can blitz or 861-JOBS if you've got some jobs to offer (there's an 85 percent tax credit for you in it).



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Noe News Is Good News or All the News That Fits, We Print

By Gardner Haskell

What we call news in the twentieth century is simply an updated version of what Neanderthals listened to around the campfire—an oral story.

The need for news is primal. There is no conceptual difference between the Neanderthal anchor man of yesterday and the 6 o'clock Channel 4 storyteller of today.

We at the *Noe Valley Voice* are simply storyteller newspeople. Rather than try to gather all of you around one fire, we use the printed word and photographs. But to better serve the community, we need to know what is newsworthy to you. We asked some Noe Valleyites the question:

"What would you like to read in the *Noe Valley Voice*?"

Betty Peskin—I want to know what other people in Noe Valley are thinking. Noe is a unique place and I want to know how Vallians feel about issues. Oh, and more of those discount coupons, please.

Photos by Gardner Haskell



Rex Wood—I like it just the way it is. I can get the national and world news anyplace, but I can only find out what is going on in Noe Valley in the *Voice*.



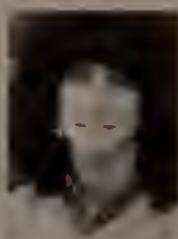
Terry Connor—More information about men. It's women this and women that. Men get the short end of the stick. And I'd like more humor, and a good cartoon each issue.



Jonnie Vance, program manager, Noe Valley Ministry—I'd like to see an article about the Christian-Jewish service that is celebrated here at the Noe Valley Ministry every third Sunday of the month at 10 a.m.



Debbie of Skeffington's—More articles about local politics and zoning. More editorials about businesses so people will become more familiar with what is offered in Noe Valley.



Claudia Kruse—More controversial stuff and more in-depth interviews with interesting Noe Valley people—especially those people you see on the street or in stores all the time.



Gerry Veverka—More humor. Cartoons. I'd like to see the *Voice* deal with issues behind events.



and now for the RUMORS behind the news

By Mazook

SCOOPS GALORE. Long lines formed in front of Double Rainbow Ice Cream's 24th Street store from noon to 2 p.m. on April 22, waiting for free scoops of your favorite flavors topped with whipped cream. Yum! Co-owner Steve Fink told us that 582 Noe Valleons showed up to get theirs and that almost 10,000 scoops were dished out at Double Rainbow's five locations around the city during the two-hour give-away.

NOT SO GENEROUS. Though Video Wave's Noe Valley branch, on Castro at 25th, advertises free memberships, there's a small catch. To rent a videotape, you must either sign a blank credit card slip or post a \$50 to \$60 cash deposit to insure return of the tape. Boo!

Moving south on Castro, at Clipper Street, we find another New Age retail outfit: a telephone store called Phone Home. Aaawh. Owner Hugh K. Martin had intended to put a discount liquor store on the premises, but saw the harsh light at the end of the ABC application tunnel when 40 written protests were lodged against his proposal.

☎ ☎ ☎

FOOD, FOOD, FOOD. The purveyors of edibles seem to be expanding in downtown Noe Valley at a rate commensurate with local bellies. It's no longer a rumor that a cookware shop will be opened by Roberta Salma next to her husband's realty office on 24th at Sanchez. It will be called "The Pantry."

It also now seems certain that Jim Di-Angeles will open his own gourmet grocery store at 3977 24th St. next to Ames Lock. Jim says he'll cook and package food in his Third Street restaurant, take it to the 24th Street store, sell it to you, and then may even accompany you back to your conventional or microwave oven to supervise the reheating.

Speaking of reheating, Auntie Pasta has moved her Diamond Street kitchen to larger quarters down the Peninsula, but will continue to sell the pre-prepared goodies which have made her famous at the Noe Valley store.

It looks like the neighborhood will get yet another Italian restaurant, this one to be at 1332 Castro St. across from Little Bell. Mamacita Titoni has moved upstairs and claims she'll have "La Romana" open by June.

Ver Brugge's Meat Market won local support for its planned move into a Victorian across the street, but ran into a snag at a planning commission hearing last month. After abandoning plans for second-story commercial use and agreeing to include two residential units in the remodeled building, they learned they



Photo by Lawrence N. Olsen ©1983 All rights reserved

Double Rainbow devotees queued up April 22 for a giveaway gob of ice cream at the 24th Street store. The *Voice* sent a representative, of course (the one in the three-piece suit).

must first obtain a variance for required parking. (There's *always* something.)

When Ver Brugge's vacates its current premises, look for Real Food Co. to expand. More food, folks.

There's more dessert, too. Cocolat, a fancy pastry and candy concern, will soon fill the spot vacated by Elaine's on 24th above Castro. Their truffles are legendary and currently available at Double Rainbow. Just around the corner, on Castro near Jersey, Carson and York Desserts is already offering its own homemade delicacies, guaranteed to bring on the infamous Sugar Rush.

CHANGING FACES. Sidewalk spies spotted our most famous longshoreman, Harry Bridges, strolling out of Mike the Barber's wearing his inimitable broad smile.

Elisa Ining has moved her hair salon down 24th Street to the Doll House, while builders expand her health spa. Star Magic will then expand their universe into what was Elisa's hair salon. Got that?

Noe Valley's popular mailman, Lonnie Watkins, has left our streets for the mail chutes, hallways and elevators of downtown skyscraper Embarcadero Four. Happy landings, Lonnie.

Global Travel is celebrating its recent move from Castro Street to 4005 24th St. (the former home of Chrysalis) with a big drawing on May 7. You don't have to book a flight to enter, and the winner gets two roundtrip tickets to Honolulu.

Loan Officer Pamela Gerard is happy Wells Fargo opened its Noe Valley branch. She now walks four blocks to work. Pamela is also the "official" photographer for San Francisco's Sinfonia Concertante chamber music group.

☎ ☎ ☎

INTIMATE DETAILS OF THE PERSONAL LIVES OF VOICE STAFFERS: She's just wild about Harry, we guess. When he popped the question last December, complete with a bottle of champagne and a pair of new leather gloves with a mysterious glint emanating from the ring finger, she knew that was her cue to say "I do." As a result, former Noe Valley residents Joan Borus and Harry Dahlgren will marry on May 22 at Tem-

ple Emanu-El in San Francisco. The couple was lured away from the neighborhood by the bright lights of North Beach last year, but still have a place in their heart for Noe Valley, where they met three years ago. Joan, as some of you may remember, is a former *Voice* reporter whose claim to fame stems from her ability to interpret a poem of uncertain literary value by deejay Steve Capen.

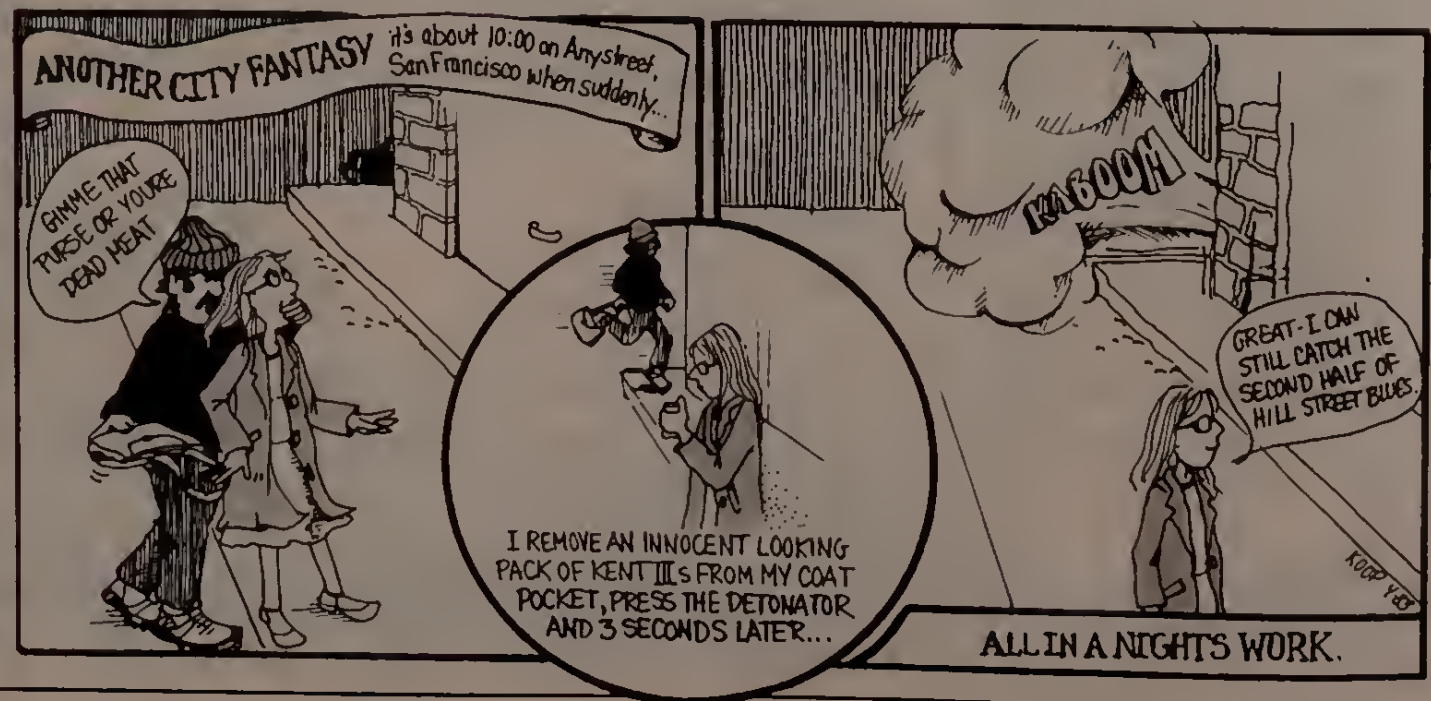
Congrats also to Eva Seligman and *Voice* photog Charlie Kennard, who "stomped the glass," i.e., exchanged vows April 24 at their San Anselmo home. (Hey, what's wrong with Noe Valley, you guys?) The ceremony moved in and out of doors, adjusting to the alternately rainy and sunny skies, but was ethereal nonetheless. We had intended to include in this issue a full-page spread of wedding photos, but, alas, Charlie was still touching them up at press time.

☎ ☎ ☎

THE WORLD OF ANIMALS. Noe Valleon Mark Hoyal is the person responsible for the "animal adoption center" newly created in front of Gibraltar Savings on 24th Street. Mark is director of the S.F. SPCA's Animal Welfare and Protection Services. He says the Noe Valley location has been very successful and that last year the citywide program found over 8,000 folks to take a wayward creature home. Adopt a cat, scare a rat.

HOT FLASHES FROM FOUNTAIN STREET. The Fountain Street Pitbull Saga is not yet over. It seems the owner of two adult pitbulls (Staffordshire Terriers) and three puppies, lords of the backyard at 73 Fountain St., was cited after neighbors complained the dogs attacked other animals. On April 14, Municipal Court Judge William Mallen ordered the death penalty for the two adult dogs, who were immediately removed to the SPCA for execution of the death sentence. The owner, however, has now obtained a court-ordered stay of execution pending the dogs' legal appeal. Meanwhile, the dogs will remain on doggie death row.

That's all y'all. □



by Susan Koop

• Facing Up •

Continued from Page 1



Pattie Gerrie, dispensing her Skin Care for the 1980's, cares for the comfort as well as the complexion of her customers.

face, then applies a honey and almond mask.

"Feel like you're being poached?" she inquires. After 10 minutes on the table I feel more like a puddle of scented jelly.

Pattie stimulates the skin with a handheld vacuum "to get all the toxins to the surface and out of the system," then pokes and prods, gently extracting offending blackheads. "You have little coups de rose veins," she says. "Probably coffee or cigarettes."

Next comes a scrub, the contents of which vary according to the client's skin type and Pattie's mood that particular week. "A scrub helps slough off all the dead, dry skin," she says, vigorously slapping my forehead. "This is good for your third eye," she adds. Let's hope so.

A gentle scrubbing with a soft brush follows and then a mysterious process using what looks like an undersized curling iron. "I'm using galvanic current to force oil into your pores," explains Pattie. Oh.

She finishes off each treatment with a moisturizer, advising me to drink lots of fluids ("Skin needs lots of water"), and a "pulverizer"—a spritzer of a floral or fruit essence—as a toner. This week her pulverizer is flavored with strawberries.

Most of Pattie's clients are men and women with serious skin problems, she says. She became interested in skin care because she suffered from acne herself. Her physician, Dr. Harry Roth, encouraged her to go into business and began referring his patients to her for regular treatments.

If asked, Pattie will give a lesson in makeup "that can be applied in five minutes." But though she sells make-up to

her clients, she doesn't like to push any particular products, believing that individuals should find out for themselves what works.

"I'm really resistant to the concept of making money," Pattie says. "My work is more like having friends come to visit me—except that they're paying me to help them."

Facework as Therapy

Irene and I next stop at 24th Street's **Fancy Fingers**, originally known for nail sculpting, but now also doing facials and make-up. James Fly and Marjorie Clemons are ready and waiting to give me a two-hour, no-holds-barred make-up session. Like Pattie, James and Marjorie are licensed "aestheticians" and give facials as well as large doses of skin care advice.

Marjorie believes that a person's emotional life may literally be written all over their face, so her facework often takes the form of therapy. "People sometimes come to me with facial eruptions not typical of their skin type," she says. "Often I'll find they have problems in the area around the jaw—where traditionally people hold a lot of frustration. I try to work it out of them with massage and get them to talk about what's bothering them."

Marjorie thinks make-up should make women feel elegant and beautiful. "I encourage them to buy really luxurious brushes and to regard application as a sensuous act," she says, stroking an indecently soft sable brush across my cheek. "Women can use make-up as a subtle expression of what they're feeling that day and they can become very creative—for example, changing the color of their eyes according to what color eye shadow they apply."

She and James move in on my face,



James Fly's fancy fingers "go all out on my cheeks and lips" to achieve the right coloration.

which they have already cleaned ("always sweep the cleanser up the face into the pores") and moisturized ("Even people with oily skin should wear moisturizer to prevent make-up bleed-through from the sebaceous glands in the surface of the skin").

After a long perusal, Marjorie applies green underbase to reduce the rosy color of my nose and then smooths on base make-up, using water and a sponge to achieve an even application. "It's like preparing a canvas," remarks James. Using dark blush and white pencils, she contours my face, magically sculpting the cheeks and reducing a slightly bulbous nose. The contouring is applied so subtly that only the closest scrutiny reveals any trace of artifice.

Eyes get the full treatment—eyeliner both top and bottom ("Never go beyond the base of the iris on the bottom lid," admonishes James), three colors of eye-shadow ("Remember light colors advance and dark colors recede," says Marjorie, delicately dabbing away), and at least two applications of mascara, rolled on and then brushed out to remove clumps.

James goes all out on my cheeks and lips, combining three colors of blush and five colors of lipstick to achieve exactly the right coloration. "Women often don't realize that just the tiniest touch of a very strong color will appear soft when applied," he says, stroking the blush from the ear outward along the cheekbone. He carefully outlines the lips before applying lipstick with a brush and admonishes me to eat and drink daintily. "With care you can leave the edges of your lips undisturbed all day, reapplying color only in the center of the mouth as needed."

Women are not the only ones who've discovered the joys of applied color and line. "Many of my customers are men who want camouflage make-up," says James. "I myself spend 45 minutes every



James Fly and colleague Marjorie Clemons remind the remade reporter that she can bring her male friends in for treatment, too.

morning applying 19 different products. Can you tell?" Definitely not.

"Everyone is good-looking in their own way," he adds, paraphrasing the popular song. James's final word is "DARE to be beautiful," which stands for Diet, Attitude ("Don't squinch your face, it causes wrinkles"), Rest and Exercise.

A Love Affair with Make-up

By the time we reach **Headlights on Hair** on Church Street, I'm ready for a more subdued daytime make-up. Make-up artist Dimitri Serafimides is happy to comply.

"Most of my clients are women in their 30's who come to me saying, 'I've never worn make-up and I'd like to give it a try,'" Dimitri says. He believes that women should wear a minimum of artifice during the day. "Otherwise they look like TV stars or fashion models."

Dimitri began his love affair with make-up as an apprentice wigmaker for the Lyric Opera, a position which soon encompassed make-up design for that company and the San Francisco Opera.

"You really have to watch the ladies of the chorus," he chuckles. "They'll start the season looking like the dowdy peasants they're supposed to, but over the course of the run they'll start to make themselves as glamorous as high-born ladies."

Eschewing the seasonal schedule of an opera company, Dimitri attended beauty school to earn a cosmetologist's license which allowed him to practice his craft—both make-up and hair—on a more regular basis.

"I really love it when people come in for a party make-up," he says. "I like to do really punk looks—and Halloween is lots of fun. Last year I did the same guy as Dracula two nights in a row. He wanted to look handsome but—you know—dead."

A streetwear make-up from Dimitri starts with thorough cleansing, toning and base. He prefers not to disguise blemishes ("In most cases that just draws attention to them") and avoids contour pencils unless preparing models for a fashion show. "Daylight and artificial lighting require completely different treatment," he explains. "A model under bright studio lights needs to have her fa-



Dimitri Serafimides over at Headlights on Hair works from the top down to create a natural-looking daytime demeanor.

cial structure accentuated."

Working downward, eyes first, then cheeks and lips, Dimitri keeps up a constant commentary on his procedure. "Never, never take the brush lower than the cheekbone," he says. "That's how you get that apple cheek look." And "always use a lipstick brush to define your mouth." He points out that women can completely alter the shape of their mouths with clever lipstick application. "Have you seen Angela Lansbury?" he asks. "She has a tiny mouth and her lipstick goes halfway up to her nose."

Headlights on Hair sells a full line of make-up, but Dimitri prefers not to heavily promote a particular line of products. "Many of our customers come in after they've gone for a full makeover at a department store," explains Dimitri. "They're not dumb; they realize that the whole experience is a hype for that particular line. Besides," he adds, "clients usually can't wait to get out of the chair and buy some of their own to start experimenting."

Dimitri, James, Marjorie and Patti all see the everyday trials of modern living as contributing to the aging of the skin. They stress proper cleaning—night and morning—followed by moisturizer appropriate to the client's particular skin type, and advocate a reduction in such stimulants as cigarettes, coffee and alcohol ("and cocaine!" adds Pattie emphatically). They also point out that most people don't drink all the water their skin needs. James speaks for all four when he says sternly, "Your face reflects the care you give it."

After 7½ hours in three different salons, with several rolls of film documenting the process, my face must have been reflecting like a beacon when I finally sallied forth onto 24th Street. With all the care and attention paid to it, I wondered, was this the face to launch a thousand peace marches? It sure felt like it! □



Dimitri Serafimides and reporter Cameron observe the fully finished face, ready for daytime wear. She'll have to scrub twice daily and avoid stimulants so as not to lose it.



THE "BEFORE" SHOT: Author Kit Cameron reflects on her as yet untreated territory.

Photos by Irene Kane

• Pickets March •

Continued from Page 1

created a "happy family neighborhood joint" over the last four years, and insisted to his staff that "I always gave you everything you asked for."

After picketing started on March 31, Lefer decorated his windows with his own leaflets, claiming the union had blocked his offers of profit-sharing, third-party arbitration, and so forth. The leaflet solicited "support against Local 2 to save a great little neighborhood restaurant...allowing us to continue in the style we choose." Lefer feared that union affiliation might "change the atmosphere" at Little Italy, recasting it in the impersonal mold of the big restaurants downtown.

"I'm 51, I don't want to be tied into a contract," he protested. "I don't want to lose my fantasy."

Recipe for Restlessness

The picketing employees, some of whom had worked for Lefer since Little Italy's opening, shared his love of the restaurant, even if they didn't share his paranoia about the union. Several of them appeared last year with Lefer before the Friends of Noe Valley to beseech the neighborhood group to support Lefer's plans to put a wine and espresso bar and waiting area in the storefront next door. (The attempt failed.) The employees also testified on Lefer's behalf in a suit over ownership brought against him by Henry Schneider, his former business partner.

But they became upset with their employer early this year when he allowed their health plan to lapse and then attempted to replace it with a plan that would have cost them more while denying maternity benefits.

According to waitress Lisa Jaicks, one of the laid-off five, Lefer also eliminated profit-sharing and pressured employees to hustle customers for bigger orders, all this in spite of the fact that he was grossing more than ever (upwards of \$4,000 a night).

A contingent of the discontented approached Local 2 organizers late in January, invited them to sit in on a meeting at the restaurant, and then hit the pavement after the layoffs. "Mel used a bogus explanation [the threat of a fire department citation] to fire people for practicing their lawful right," declared Jaicks.

In addition to their "informational" picket, the employees and the local filed a complaint against Lefer alleging several violations of the National Labor Relations Act, including "harassment, intimidation...and negotiating in bad faith." Most of the 15 union supporters still employed by Lefer joined the line on their nights off, and contributed part of their take to a "strike fund." Ver Brugge's, the Acme Cafe, and the Meat



Photo by Laura Miller

Little Italy busboy Vinnie Lucania (right) and supporter Barry McLaughlin, bartender at another non-union nosherie, walk the line for workers' rights in front of the popular pasta palace.

Market Coffeehouse reportedly supplied food and coffee, though picketing cook Alan Verrochi emphasized that "it was the workers, not the management" of these establishments who should be credited with the charity.

Late on Saturday, April 2, following the third chilly night of picketing, a group of the rank and file gathered for scotch and strategy at the Noe Valley Bar & Grill, where they received additional support and good humor from the waitpersons. "Business has picked up here since you guys started doing your thing," they were told.

They talked about Lefer's efforts to bolster his own business by restoring some of the pit seating, which resulted in the posting that evening of a Notice of Violation of Section 304: Fire Hazard—Over Crowding, courtesy of the SFPD. The picketers had their own confrontation with the police, who warned them to keep their chanting to a "peaceful" level or face an SFPD citation.

Elliott Beckelman, waiter and unofficial spokesperson for the pickets ("because of my seniority and big mouth"), reported that Lefer and Kreitzman had retaliated against supporters inside by assigning them to smaller sections of the restaurant with proportionately smaller tips. Beckelman said he'd repeatedly

urged Lefer to "use his creativity" and "set the standard for 24th Street" by hammering out a good working agreement with the union.

Jaicks, who'd spent part of her weekend marching "in solidarity" with the pickets at the New York City Deli (at Market and 16th), felt the group should be willing to "start from scratch" with Lefer on the individual terms of a contract, as long as he'd agree to sit down with the union. She had to admit that the faces and voices of her comrades were beginning to tense up.

The next evening, according to those who worked it, was the worst (financially) in Little Italy's history. Busboy Vinnie Lucania estimated the restaurant had lost a total of \$7,000 in the four days of picketing, and suggested it was high time to "build the trust again" with Lefer. "We don't want to squeeze him too hard and make him close," Verrochi agreed. A meeting was set with Lefer to "get the anger out" and exchange offers.

Dinner Guests & Just Desserts

In the meantime, the pickets continued to practice their powers of persuasion on would-be diners, recording each success with chants such as "Hey, hey, hey! Four more away!" Some patrons chose to listen to the cries ("It's a meal to you, it's a job to us!") from inside, over their pasta.

Herb Kong, who drove in from the East Bay, protested that he and his wife had been ignorant of the demonstration until they'd arrived and had been leafleted from both sides. "If we really knew the issues...but you know, there are two sides to every story," said Kong after paying his check.

Lefer managed to find some customers willing to claim they'd been restrained by the pickets, and he collected hand-

written statements on the off-chance he might want to file an injunction to reduce the size of the picket line.

One well-dressed woman gazed ruefully at a squad car cruising by on 24th Street as the marchers intoned, "What do we want? Local 2! When do we want it? Now!"

"How come these people can't be arrested for disturbing the peace?" she implored Lefer. "It's a union town, everyone has a right to demonstrate," responded Lefer, who allowed he himself had once been a dues-paying Teamster.

Early the following week Lefer agreed to take back the employees he'd laid off. In return the employees temporarily suspended the picket line and apologized for publicly ridiculing Lefer and his family.

In a symbolic gesture, Beckelman confronted Lefer with a copy of the standard union contract booklet and proceeded to separate the cover from the contents, thereby indicating that the employees were willing to parley on specifics as long as Lefer recognized the union as their agent. Both the employees and Lefer agreed to back down from their threatened injunctions, and by Tuesday night, April 5, business was pretty much back to its normal noisy, aromatic level.

At an afternoon meeting two days later Lefer bombed the assembled employees and organizers with the startling announcement: "I've sold the restaurant to Mr. Yu [to whom he'd sold the New York City Deli two years earlier], and I've made arrangements with Henry Schneider to run it." The amused entrepreneur then gazed around the gallery of dropped jaws in long faces and revealed his opening statement to be a ruse. "I just wanted you to feel how I felt when you guys said you wanted the union," he told them.

In truth Lefer had consulted with a "labor lawyer" who'd told him that "everything I've done so far is wrong." Therefore, Lefer explained, he'd decided "to bargain in good faith with the union," though he was "still hoping you will change your mind." He pressed his concerns about the effects of the fire department's restrictions on the size of the restaurant, and of the restrictions of a union contract on the character of the place.

But Beckelman assured him that "this contract is going to protect you because we respect you, like you, and work with you."

After the meeting, the sweet smell of success wafted out onto the sidewalk. There it took the form of an impromptu celebration, with much hugging, shouting, and slapping of backs. "You guys did a great job," spouted organizer O'Connor. "You hung together, that's the key." "Let's picket Maggie's!" joked Maitre d' Mark Cherry. Instead, the heady group wandered over to the Bar & Grill, where they employed several bottles of champagne to toast each other, the union, the neighborhood press, and "Mel's good sense."

Sour Grapes in the Sour Dough

Although close in space and time, the picket down at Bakers of Paris, which became Noe Valley's second organized labor demonstration in the last week of March, was very different in form and function. For one thing, the demonstrators were not Bakers of Paris

Continued on Page 9

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Pickets March

Continued from Page 8

employees, but Teamsters (Local 484) whose names were picked by the union off a list of the "temporarily unemployed." For another, the real issue of protest was not the employees' working conditions but the effect of the bakery's policies on its competitors and the union which represents them.

As expressed on the 3 x 5 cards carried by picketers Eddie Brown and Tony Moreland, "We [the Teamsters] view this bakery as a substandard non-union operation that takes business away from union drivers and salespersons laboring under hard-won wages and working conditions."

Among these conditions is the agreement between Teamsters and bakers that no bread will be baked or delivered on Wednesday or Sunday. Bill Magidson, organizer for the local, explained that Bakers of Paris, though a non-union shop, had complied with this schedule for a while last year, and then decided to deliver their bread fresh seven days a week. This not only contravened the union agreement, but also began to lure accounts away from the long-established and unionized Colombo-Parisian-Toscana French bread conglomerate.

Speaking from his South San Francisco bakery, Bakers of Paris owner Lionel Robbe-Jedeux provided a more complete history of the conflict. He acknowledged that soon after his bakery opened in June, 1981, on a daily bread basis, it was picketed by the Teamsters. Deliveries were cut back to five days "because we didn't want a fight with a union like that."

However, Bakers of Paris' clients were beginning to include several of the city's major hotels and restaurants who, according to Robbe-Jedeux, were growing disillusioned with the increasingly

"engineered" taste of name-brand breads. These clients began to send their own drivers to South City to retrieve fresh products Wednesdays and Sundays, and Bakers of Paris resumed baking on these days.

Incensed, the union tried to force Bakers of Paris to sell at retail, but Robbe-Jedeux et cie refused. This resulted in a second picket around the bakery in the summer of 1982, along with union leafleting against Bakers of Paris at the Fairmont and other prominent sites. Robbe-Jedeux attempted to gauge union sympathy in his shop with an election, but this effort was blocked by the Teamsters, who, said Robbe-Jedeux, were afraid of losing.

Parisian Pride

As the number of his accounts (including supermarkets) increased, Robbe-Jedeux decided last October to contract with a non-union company, C'est Pain, to handle his daily deliveries. "There's nothing more unfair," he declared, "than for supermarkets to have to sell day-old bread at retail prices." Bakers of Paris also opened a second retail outlet, on 24th Street, following the success of its Haight Street store.

Throughout this period of expansion, Bakers of Paris attempted to meet or beat union labor conditions, for example by giving all employees, including drivers, two successive days off per week. When Teamster picketing first started at the retail stores late in March, Robbe-Jedeux was quick to post signs stating that "Bakers of Paris employees are not on strike!"

Outside on the 24th Street sidewalk, picketer Brown said he'd tried to impress Bakers of Paris employees with the wages, benefits and security offered by his union, but had been told by the prideful staff that "their jobs are built totally on trust."

Taffy Von Hungen, manager of the Noe Valley store, said an important ingredient of her allegiance to Bakers of Paris was the "better quality product" they produced. She explained that the bakery had a policy of "using the hands" and "very expensive techniques" in baking, including rotary steam ovens and wire mesh racks which allow air to circulate, rather than stationary ovens and molds.

Combined with daily freshness, these techniques have served to increase Bakers of Paris' reputation to the point that Robbe-Jedeux has had to "control our growth," turning away some wholesale accounts and concentrating on developing retail outlets in new neighborhoods, along the lines of his native Paris.

He sees the most recent Teamster picketing as a result of pressure on the union by his competitors, as well as pressure from within the union to rack up victories before its current contract with the bakeries expires.

Nonetheless, a temporary injunction from the National Labor Relations Board brought picketing to an abrupt halt in the middle of last month. Store employees felt the pickets had effected some economic impact, partly from using "bullshit" propaganda on socially conscious customers, but clerk Plume Sebbane reflected that the demonstration here was "sweet" by comparison with labor activity she'd experienced back in France.

Table Talk

Meanwhile, Local 2 staged a victory party on April 19, mainly to maintain high and cohesive spirits among the Little Italy employees, most of whom were beginning to exhibit the symptoms of burn-out. The good news of the evening was that Lefer had signed a formal agreement to negotiate, had hired a lawyer to help out, and had offered to recompense

the five employees for most of the wages they'd lost during their layoff. The bad news was that most of the individual terms of the contract—e.g., health coverage, holidays, and future layoffs—would have to be slowly and carefully crafted at the negotiating table, and Lefer was due to depart for a month in Italy, leaving the future of the process in doubt.

Organizer O'Connor reminded the workers that "the hardest thing about the first contract is establishing a timeline," and urged them not to dwell on the possibility that Little Italy, like the New York City Deli before it, might end up on the auction block. A new owner could not be forced to accept the union, O'Connor said, but could be bound to bargain with the union by stipulation of the contract.

A negotiation committee was formed of representatives from each job category, and Lefer was assured that no picketing would take place during the talks and that the Unfair Labor Practices complaint against him would be dropped. He was also advised, however, that he should be discreet in future personnel actions and that picketing could recommence if the talks broke down. (The Teamsters may also renew their picketing at Bakers of Paris this month, after the temporary injunction expires.)

"I'm going to stay with it for a while," sighed Lefer. "I'll just have to add up all those demands and see how much they'll cost...and how much I'll have to raise the prices on the menu." He hopes to find a few new wines and recipes in Italy to keep his employees busy and his customers interested. This might help things work out, he says, because "a lot of them [the customers, that is] have the bucks."



Illustration by Florence Holub

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How to Date a Domicile

On the Trail of Noe Valley's Oldest House

By Larry Beresford

When gold was discovered at Sutter's Mill in 1848, San Francisco was a tiny seaport village with a Spanish Mission church a few miles up a dirt road. Almost overnight, a major city bloomed, and the population growth pushed homebuilders out the old Mission Road.

The first residents of Noe Valley, truck farmers who grew the produce for San Francisco's tables, erected farmhouses on the hillsides above their grazing livestock. Later, successful San Franciscans began to build country cottages in Noe Valley. By the 1870s developers had begun buying up blocks and erecting rows of identical Victorians.

Today those charming Victorians command a forty-niner's ransom and often come with dubious claims to great antiquity. But which one is actually the oldest house in Noe Valley?

Determined to solve this mystery, the *Voice* consulted two local historians and an architect, and then embarked on a tour of the neighborhood's chief candidates for such distinction. The quest for our oldest house failed to yield an easy solution, however.

"It's a very difficult thing to research," said Elaine Molinari, a historian and author of "The Fairviews of the Valley," a fictional history serialized last year in the *Voice*. If there were records prior to 1906, Molinari said, many were lost in the earthquake fire. Also, a common method of dating old houses is by the year of their water hook-up. "But many houses in Noe Valley had wells well into this century," she said.

In fact, many claims for the age of old houses are just that—claims that can't be verified. A 1954 report on the history of Noe Valley, prepared by a group called the Upper Noe Valley Women's Improvement Club, listed the names of 10 prominent families living on the 100-block of Clipper Street in the 1860s. "However, I went through an 1868 directory and couldn't find any of the names," Molinari said.

This report also claimed that four houses still standing on Church Street had been built by Sam Brannan, the man who announced the discovery of gold at Sutter's Mill to the people of San Francisco. Molinari said she didn't know where these houses were originally located, but suspected they were in the first few blocks of Church, near Market Street. They had survived for 50 years after the earthquake, but most likely perished in the urban renewal of the 1960s and 1970s, she said.

When pressed for a guess as to the age

of our eldest building, Molinari said that house building in Noe Valley dated from the early 1850s, and the oldest houses still standing were probably built in the 1860s. "But you'd need some unique piece of evidence," such as a letter or other document, to establish the actual dates of the oldest houses, she said.

Local architect and Corbett Street resident Doug McNutt warned that any attempt he made to date a house would be mere conjecture, but he agreed to accompany us on our search for the oldest house in the Valley. The first stop was 450 Day St., an address that had turned up in one of Molinari's investigations.

"It's unadorned enough to be plausible, given heavy subsequent remodeling," McNutt said, explaining that simplicity would be one key to identify early Noe Valley structures. "Note the pitched (sloped) roof. The simplest thing in the world is to put on a pitched roof. On a small house a flat roof means tar and gravel, which means more trouble," he said.

However, the current resident at 450 Day St., Howard Levitt, said the house dated from 1908. "It was made with a concrete foundation, which places it after the quake," he explained. At one time the house had an outhouse and a redwood water storage tank in the attic that was connected to the spring-fed streams that flowed down from Diamond Heights, he said.

Levitt suggested checking out 1190 Noe St. at 25th. This handsome light blue Victorian has an attached barn that's been remodeled but still has block and tackle hanging on the wall. It also has a For Sale sign. But despite its beauty and quaint appearance, it's probably not the oldest in the Valley, or even on the block, Molinari says.

Another local historian, Judith Lynch, who leads the City Guides' walking tours, has traced the water hook-up at 1190 Noe to the year 1890. She estimates that the barn dates from the 1880s. We already know, however, that Noe Valley was sprouting with farms two decades earlier.

The search next led to 4250 23rd St. at Eureka, a stately if run-down gray Victorian. The current resident, Ben W. Smith, was spraying pesticide on the shrubbery in front as we approached. Smith didn't know the exact

Continued on Page 11



This corner flat at 2-6 Vicksburg and 22nd Street likely dates from the 1870s.



1190 Noe St. at 25th is handsome but not the oldest house on its block.



The unadorned front and dirt cellar of the fourplex at 3865-71 25th St. suggest that it may have been an early Noe Valley farmhouse.



4250 23rd St., at Eureka, may have turned up on an 1886 navigational map of the San Francisco Bay.



Seven Italianate Victorians at 8-18 Vicksburg St. all appear to be built from the same model.

• Oldest House •

Continued from Page 10

age of his house, but claimed to have seen proof that it was standing in 1886.

"On a coastal geodetic survey map of the Bay published in 1941," he said, "there is a note that the map was based on a land survey map of 1886, showing landmarks." Pointing to the Bay, which can still be seen from his yard through a gap in the hills, he explained that the landmarks on the older map were used for navigation, since the Bay shoreline at that time was just marshland. "On the 1941 map is a little set of black squares that exactly matches the shape of this house and barn," he said, adding that the lone house must have been one of those navigational landmarks.

"The yarn I get from the oldtimers," Smith said, "is that this house was built by a rich young lawyer as a honeymoon cottage. But his bride died before the wedding. So he said to hell with it all." Smith moved into the house in 1940.

The next stop in the search for the oldest house in Noe Valley was the first block of Vicksburg at 22nd Street. In a neat row stand seven tall, thin Italianate Victorians, with the false fronts, the brackets just beneath the roof, and the slanted bay windows that were the style from the 1860s to the 1880s. Time and remodeling have worked their changes on these Italianates; one has lost the false front on top, and another is missing its lower bay window.

However, McNutt said, they were all obviously built at the same time, using an identical model. He said they were also quite old, possibly from the 1870s. Finishing the block is the corner Italianate at 2-6 Vicksburg St.—a structure that's wider, better kept and more spectacular than the others. A half-dozen windows look south across a terraced

garden to the seven neighbors, suggesting—but not confirming—that the corner house may have been built before the others.

Molinari agreed that these houses were relatively old, and possibly among the first tract or row houses in the neighborhood, likely dating from the 1870s. However, she thinks that somewhere in the neighborhood are older, once solitary farmhouses, with their proof of age buried in the bottom of a dusty trunk.

Molinari has tried to track down the oldest house by perusing names in old city directories, looking for surviving structures in old photographs, and trying to match buildings with markings on old maps. But she believes the best indications of seniority are a house's location—the oldest ones are on hills—and "finish" around all sides of the building. For instance, the first house in the Valley would be expected to have windows on all four sides.

Molinari has two personal choices for the oldest house in Noe Valley, both based largely on hunches. "It's hard to point to a reason" for choosing them, she said. "These are the ones I'm fondest of."

One is the fourplex at 3865-71 25th St., between Church and Dolores Streets. Once a duplex, it is a sparsely featured white structure with a large garden in front. The cellar beneath the ground floor has dirt floors, says Molinari, who used to live across the street. Older neighbors say there was originally a well in the front yard, which would explain a later water hook-up date for this house.

Molinari's other choice is a plain structure at 498 Hoffman St., on the corner of 25th. Several additions have been built onto what may have been the original square building in back. "The shallow, peaked roof, the trim all the way around the top, and the plainness of the building suggest it may have been a one- or two-room farmhouse," she said. Also, windows from this building face south down the hill to 24th Street and east to the Bay.

Could this be the oldest house in Noe Valley?

Do you live in an oldtimer? How about dusting off that trunk in the attic?

Readers are encouraged to send any leads on the oldest house in Noe Valley to the Voice, 1021 Sanchez St., San Francisco, CA 94114. □



The house at 450 Doy St. turned out to postdate the quake, judging by its concrete foundation.



A simple square farmhouse may have formed the core structure around which this house at 498 Hoffman was built.

Photos by Joel Abramson

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'Final Draft' on KALW

Tune into Some Good Carmen

By Barbara Withers

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a rusty safety pin from its diaper
a tear sits glimmering at the bottom
of one of the bags
next to a broken promise...till death
do us part...or until a later model comes
along
They sit in the subways of Chicago/New York/San Francisco waiting for an
express train to nowhere*

—Gwen Carmen
"Bag Lady Blues"

Fiction writer and poet Gwen Carmen strives to write about bag ladies, the elderly, minorities, women, the handicapped—people she feels most writers tend to ignore. "I try to be three-dimensional in my writing," she says.

Carmen also tries to be tenacious in what she does, from writing to fighting an eviction dispute with her former landlord. By psyching herself up, she says, she can tune into the "vibrations" that tell her to keep on fighting for what she believes in.

These "vibrations" have turned into radio airwaves for Carmen—she hosts "Final Draft," a showcase for writers on KALW, 91.7 FM.

In the two years that she's hosted the show, Carmen believes it has been effective in encouraging writers to get their fiction or poetry published. Her guests have ranged from unpublished writers waiting for a break, to established writers such as Ishmael Reed, Ira Kamin and recent Pulitzer Prize winner Alice Walker.

A Kentucky native, Carmen received her bachelors in education with a minor in theater arts while in school in Wisconsin. She moved to the Bay Area in 1972 as an actress with the San Francisco Shakespeare Company. She then enrolled at San Francisco State in broadcasting, but found the department too crowded and opted instead for creative writing. She will receive her masters in creative

writing in May.

While attending S.F. State, she noticed a posted announcement from KALW requesting short fiction pieces. She sent three of her fiction pieces in. The host of "Final Draft" at the time, Amy Langerman, liked them all and invited Carmen to appear on the show.

At first, Carmen said, she didn't like the sound of her reading voice. "I thought I sounded lazy and slow, right from the South," she complained. But Langerman thought otherwise and invited Carmen to take over hosting duties when she left the show in 1981.

Carmen says "Final Draft" was the perfect opportunity for her to get the "hands-on" experience she needed.

The half-hour shows are usually taped about two weeks in advance, with format depending on the guest writer. Carmen notes that "not all writers are verbal," so she occasionally asks actor Will Huddleston to read a writer's work.

One writer from Texas repeatedly refused to read her work on the air, then admitted to Carmen that she disliked her strong southern accent. Gwen could certainly empathize with that, so she coached her guest until she was ready to read on the show.

Carmen says she receives manuscripts from all over the country and will use anything as long as it's not sexist or racist in nature.

When Alice Walker was her guest, Carmen really got enthused—maybe too enthused. "I was so excited that I kept introducing myself as Alice Walker and her as Gwen Carmen!"

From Walker, Carmen learned and now fully supports the notion that "you write for yourself." The show has also taught her that a writer must persevere to establish him/herself in a literary market. "It's easy to watch all the hard luck stories on TV and just say to yourself, 'Oh, what's the use,'" she says. But "I just keep trying—I'm a determined person."

Carmen's determination has paid off. Her poems have appeared in *Essence* magazine, and last year Poetry for the People published a collection of Car-



Photo by Phyllis Fisher

Poet Gwen Carmen is concerned that San Francisco is rapidly losing many of its artists due to lack of monetary support. She encourages new writers and poets to spread the word on her half-hour radio show, "Final Draft," aired Fridays at 8:30 p.m. on KALW.

men's poetry called *Borders in Black*. She is one of 22 women authors of *On Our Own*, an anthology about women travelers. Many of the contributors to this work, like Carmen, are Noe Valley residents.

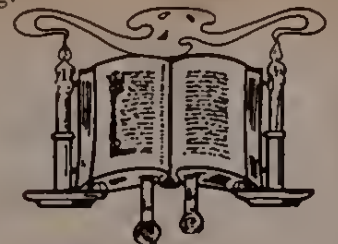
"Final Draft," airing Fridays at 8:30 p.m., is there but for the grace of KALW, owned and operated by the financially strapped S.F. Unified School District. On a shoestring budget, the station has recently launched a campaign for community support. To benefit the show and the station, Carmen and friends will present a special evening of poetry and jazz May 15 at the Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St., 4 to 7 p.m.

Poets slated to appear include Leslie Simon, Bill Garrett, Avocetja, Diane

Frank as well as Gwen Carmen herself. The readings will be accompanied by jazz musicians Larry Kassin (flute), Kiyoshi Miyaura (sax), Keith Cudaback (piano), and John Selby (sax and flute).

If you would like to submit a manuscript to "Final Draft" or make a tax-deductible contribution to KALW, the address is KALW, 2905 21st St., San Francisco, CA 94110.

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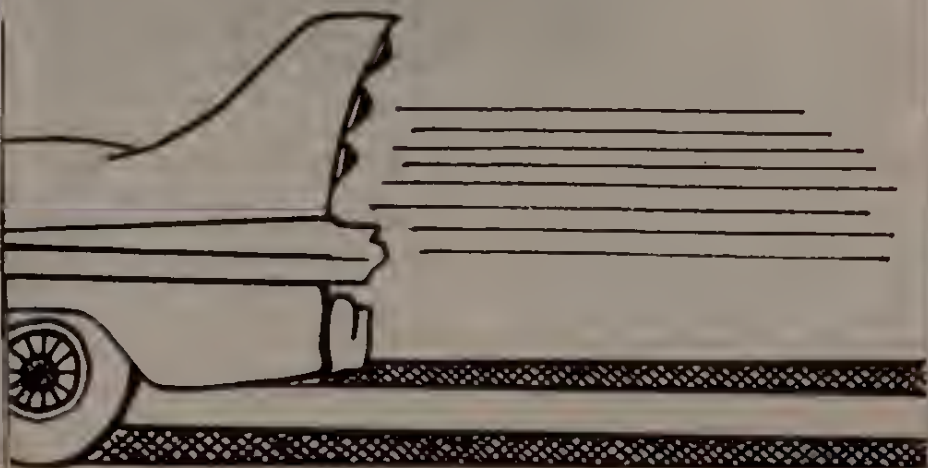
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Alternative Highs For City Kids—Lick Academy & School of Arts

By Jeff Kaliss

While Fred Sonnenberg was rightfully excited last year about being considered for the position of head of the brand new School of the Arts Foundation, his daughter Amanda was equally thrilled about applying for admission to the first class of the School of the Arts, garrisoned in McAteer High School, on Portola Drive above their Noe Valley home.

"After all, if you have a mushy high school, you'll probably be a mushy actor," the young thespian said. She'd watched enough TV and had her fill of mushy actors.

The School of the Arts (SOTA) is one of two "new alternative programs" established last fall by the San Francisco Unified School District. It provides instruction in dance, music, and visual arts as well as theater.

The other program, dubbed the International Studies Academy (ISA), is housed on the third floor of James Lick Middle School at 25th and Noe Streets. Its focus is the mastery of non-native languages and world perspectives.

Both programs are currently finishing their first year of ninth grade offerings. For the 1983-84 school year, they will add a 10th grade curriculum, and 11th and 12th grades in succeeding years.

Both Sonnenbergs express gratitude that the district is exploring these alternatives. Fred, who met his wife through his involvement in Palo Alto's Illegitimate Theater in the '60s, is happy to see Amanda "acquiring skills that can only be gotten through association with the highest quality professionals." She gets two periods of theater—warm-ups and acting (including improvisation)—in each six-period day. The other four periods involve World Art and more traditional parts of the curriculum. Amanda is particularly impressed with the physical facilities at McAteer, including a huge stage and sophisticated technical features.

Moira De Nike, another SOTA freshman from Noe Valley, used to have to take private dance instruction when she attended Presidio Middle School. She's now pleased that she can get jazz, modern and ballet as part of her daily high school classwork, so "you don't have to pay extra." Her studio at McAteer is fully equipped with barres and full-length mirrors.

The International Studies Academy's success, according to project head Armand Magid, is less due to its physical plant, which is limited at Lick, than to its integration into the business community.

"Wells Fargo has adopted the school for the next four years," Magid points out. The bank has provided guest lecturers on such practical topics as dressing for success and the preparation of resumes, and beginning on May 3 will offer two days a week of paid internships



Photo by Ron Mifsud and Ricky Pascubello

School of the Arts students John Brannon and Lisa Marie Simonson create pizza and burrito platters out of clay. Teacher Miriam Chiaverini selected this sensual theme for an art project because "food is something we are all very close to." Co-worker Rico Solinas considered the project a success when the entire class left in a state of rovenous hunger.

in downtown banking functions, including international relations.

There's also what Magid calls a "reality factor" in this integration process: not every student who applies for an internship gets picked by Wells Fargo. Instead, they must undergo bank interviews and compete under such criteria as attitude, punctuality and recommendations (which in this case come from ISA teachers). ISA Student Council President Steve Capulong praises the teachers for being "straight to the point" about the seriousness and importance of all these factors.

Likewise, Moira De Nike is proud that she and other SOTA students could put on a good show this spring in competition with other schools under the Bay Area-wide Command Performance program. Despite their being new to the scene, De Nike reports, they were told by the judges that "they liked our energy."

Rico Solinas, one of three artists-in-residence currently assigned to SOTA, worked before as a student teacher at McAteer, where his efforts to instruct in the visual arts were marred by the cuts and absences which plague most high schools. The SOTA kids, though, "are there every day, and most of them are motivated." However, he's found that "they can't draw" and have some reluctance to innovate. "We have to show them that it doesn't have to look like a photo to be good," explains Salinas. "Confidence is the most important thing in art."

Down at ISA, Amy Rogers, whose mom works at Common Scents and lives a block from the school, confesses that her confidence is undermined by the "very big discipline thing" imposed by

the administration. She says it keeps ISA kids confined to a "closed campus" where they're outnumbered by the younger kids attending James Lick Middle School.

"As far as I'm concerned, the closed campus is strictly for the parents," says Amy. Absent the rule, she and her buddies would have lunch up on 24th Street, and get a break from the pressures of a top-notch academic program.

Steve Capulong relates that lateness is also frowned upon, resulting in punishment (being kept after school and made to write a hundred times, "I will not be tardy!") and warnings to parents.

Dr. Magid feels the rules simply protect the kids from the vices of the outside world, and that they might be relaxed when junior and senior level classes are added later on.

In fact, Magid and his counterparts at the School of the Arts are dealing with special kids who deserve to be treated in a special way. To be accepted into the ISA program, eighth graders must demonstrate satisfactory academic progress, undergo a "family interview" and sign a commitment "indicating willingness to adhere to the Academy's philosophy and policies."

SOTA applicants are examined for their "previous school performance and recommendations," interviewed by a committee appropriate to their area of interest, and auditioned. The latter trial may involve "participation in an experiment in two-dimensional design," a "test for pitch discrimination and vocal quality," or "an improvisation using vocal work and stage movement, based on facts and direction from the audition panel."

Both schools must screen applicants because of the small size of the programs and their interest in developing a student body equally prepared to go to college and to get a job in a specialized field.

Magid's own interest in the ISA concept was sparked when he learned, during testimony before a presidential commission in 1979, that the U.S. had only 900 salespeople in Japan fluent in Japanese, whereas the Japanese had some 15,000 English-speaking salespeople operating in this country. "There's a necessity for this school in an economic sense," he realized.

The SOTA folks bring the same approach to the arts. The Foundation, headed by the elder Sonnenberg, has taken care to develop a board of directors which "reflects the cultural and ethnic diversity of the city, as well as including

business and civic leaders." The board is headed by Noe Valley resident and internationally-known sculptor Ruth Asawa, who 10 years ago developed the Alvarado Arts program which placed artists in the grade schools and paved the way for SOTA.

Also active on the board are Municipal Judge Mary Morgan; Richard LeBlond, president of the San Francisco Ballet; Barbara Williams, assistant vice president of the Wells Fargo Investment Advisors; and actor Peter Coyote, who has turned his attention from tracking down E.T. (as he did on the big screen last year) to seeking new funding for SOTA from government, foundation and private sources.

The efforts of these and other members of the SOTA board, in league with Sonnenberg and the SOTA Parents Association, have given rise to the Summer Inter-Arts Workshops beginning this June for kids 10-18, for which a fee is charged and separate auditions are being held. The foundation has obtained cooperation for this venture from a variety of organizations and artists, including the San Francisco Tapestry Workshop, the Bay Area Jazz Society, Director and Choreographer Devra Korwin, and Joe Bellen and Joan Mencken, who will team-teach a course in "Physical Comedy." Korwin's program will culminate in four performances Aug. 12-14 of "Free to Be You and Me."

And Amanda Sonnenberg says she "can't wait till next year." She reportedly discovered that there were 100 applicants on the waiting list for theater alone, so "there are going to be more people who are more eager to learn."

Steve Capulong and Amy Rogers look forward to more friends, more dances, and "a lot of neat programs to come" at ISA, such as a foreign exchange arrangement that could place some of the kids overseas.

Amy's mom, Randee Fairbrother, hopes the school will become better known as well as better funded. She and Amy have shared a lot of excitement the school has generated—including an international talent show—and she realizes "it'll take time for everything to come together."

Kids and parents interested in ISA should phone 647-7950 and visit the Academy at 1220 Noe St. You can find out more about SOTA, 555 Portola Drive, at 550-1560. For information about the Summer Inter-Arts Workshops, call the Foundation at 648-7080. □



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MORE BOOKS

TO READ



Illustration by Susan Koop

Noe Valley Librarian Susan Bizio and Children's Librarian Barbara VanderBorgh sent this list of books recently received at the Jersey Street branch

FICTION

Voice of the Heart—Barbara Taylor Bradford
The Little Drummer Girl—John Le Carré
Black Heart—Eric Van Lusthader
Ice—Ed McBain
Night Music—Lilli Palmer
The Delta Star—Joseph Wambaugh

NON-FICTION

Rodale's Encyclopedia of Natural Home Remedies—Mark Bricklin
Women of the West—Cathy Luchetti
Reading Begins at Home: preparing children for reading before they go to school—Dorothy Butler
Working Out: the total shape-up guide for men—Charles Hix
In the Spirit of Crazy Horse—Peter Matthiessen
The Dark Side of Genius: the Life of Alfred Hitchcock—Donald Spoto
The Health Food Shopper's Guide—Harold Jay Taub

NEW BOOKS FOR THE VERY YOUNG

Across the Stream—Mirra Ginsburg
Clean Enough—Kevin Henkes
Kate's Box and Kate's Quilt—Kay Choro
How My Garden Grew—The Rockwells
Moonlight—Jan Ormerod
Sam Who Never Forgets—Eve Rice
Pig Pig Rides—David McPhail
Let's Play—Satomi Ichikawa
Good as New—Barbara Douglass
The Banza (a Haitian folk tale)—Diane Wolkstein
A Horse and A Hound, A Goat and A Gander—The Provencens
Jed's Junior Space Patrol—The Marzollos
Old Turtles Baseball Stories—Leonard Kessler



Photo by Charles Kennard

Voice Staff Unveiled

So who are those people behind the bylines in the *Noe Valley Voice*? The bravest and the vainest turned out for this first-ever staff portrait.

Top row (left to right): Gardner Haskell, Gary Sabo, Peter Magnani, Victoria Brown, Mary O'Brien, Jeff Kaliss, Bill Leeman, Jane Underwood, Joel Abramson, Kit Cameron and Frisco (the bird).

Bottom row (left to right): Charlie Kennard, Laurel Hellerstein, Barbara Withers, Irene Kane, Susan Koop, Jack Tipple, Sarah Smith and Kubla Smith-Ballardo.

Those camera-shy staffers and friends who deserve equal blame for what does or does not appear in this publication are: Larry Beresford, Melinda Breitmeyer, Gabrielle Daniels, Florence Holub, David Laidig, Mazook, Bob Morris, Nelson Mulé, Patricia Reynoso, Roger Rubin, Nathan Salant, Steve Steinberg, Barbara VanderBorgh and Bill Yard.



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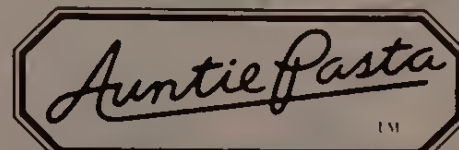
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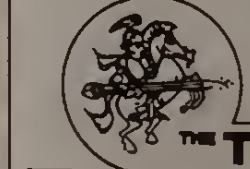
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May, 1983

C A L E N D A R



Illustration by Florence Holub

MAY 2-8: AIDS AWARENESS WEEK,* proclaimed by Mayor Feinstein. For information on activities, call the Kaposi Sarcoma Research and Education Foundation, 864-4376.

MAY 2-27: "EUCALYPTUS," new watercolors by painter Eileen Downey. S.F. Ecology Center, 13 Columbus Ave. Mon. thru Fri., 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

MAY 3: FORUM on power politics and land use in San Francisco Bay Area. Socialist School, 29 29th St. 8 p.m.

MAY 3: First class of 5-part workshop on "THE ART OF STORY MAKING," including creative writing, illustration, printing and bookbinding. For ages 8-12. Mission Branch Library, 3359 24th St. Tues., 3:30-5 p.m. Call to pre-register, 824-2810.

MAY 4 & 8: The Plutonium Players and Ladies Against Women in an EVENING OF CONSCIOUSNESS-LOWERING. Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St. 8:30 p.m.

MAY 5: HYPERTENSION Peer Support Group for seniors meets Thursdays at District Health Center No. 1, 3850 17th St. 9:30-11:30 a.m.

MAY 5: FORUM on the Miskitu Indian Situation in Nicaragua. Modern Times Bookstore, 968 Valencia St. 8 p.m.

MAY 5-27: "RAGING BULL," Lea De Laria's one-woman extravaganza. Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St. Thurs & Fri., 8 p.m.

MAY 5 - JUNE 5: "CLOUD 9," Caryl Churchill's Obie Award-winning play, presented by the Eureka Theatre Co. at 1590 15th St. Previews May 5, 6 & 8. Run May 10 - June 5. Tues. thru Sun., 8 p.m. 558-9811.

MAY 5 - JUNE 5: "CAT ON A HOT TIN ROOF" by Tennessee Williams. Presented by Tour de Force at the Noe Valley Theatre, 1021 Sanchez St. Thurs. thru Sat., 8:15 p.m. Sun. matinee, 2:30 p.m. 626-1192.

MAY 6: Mexican political activist GABINO GOMEZ will speak at St. John's Church, 3126 22nd St., on the efforts of the Comité de Defensa Popular of Chihuahua. Preceded by a Mexican dinner. 6 p.m. 561-9055.

MAY 6: FEMINIST COMEDIANS Kate Kasten and Annie Gage. Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St. 10:30 p.m.

MAY 6: Alejandro Molina Lara, national secretary of El Salvador's trade union federation, FENASTRAS, will speak on human rights violations in El Salvador. ILWU Hall, 400 North Point. 7:30 p.m. Free.

MAY 6-8 & 13-15: "TWO AT A TIME," evening of dance by Emily Keeler and Aaron Osborne. Footwork Studio, 3221 22nd St. 8:30 p.m. 824-5044.

MAY 6-28: Multi-media exhibit of works by the VIDA GALLERY Collective. Reception May 6, 7-9 p.m. Exhibit Wed. thru Fri., 2-7 p.m., Sat., noon - 5 p.m. The Women's Building, 3543 18th St. 864-VIDA.

MAY 6-29: "HOT L BALTIMORE," presented by the Bedini Theater Project at the Center for Arts and Education, 347 Dolores at 16th. Fri. & Sat., 8 p.m. Sun., 7:30 p.m. 221-0070.

MAY 7: RUBY O'BURKE'S Pottery Workshop Spring Show and Sale. 552A Noe St. 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. 861-9779.

MAY 7: Talk on COMMUNITY GARDENING, with slides, a tour of S.F.'s gardens, and tips on growing veggies. The Women's Building, 3543 18th St. 10 a.m.

MAY 7: TAROT THEATRE backstage with the Major Arcana. Habitat Center, 3897 18th St. 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

MAY 7: 13th annual WINE FESTIVAL sponsored by French American Bilingual School at the Trade Show Center, Eighth & Brannan. 7:30 p.m. - 1 a.m.

MAY 7: FAIR OAKS NEIGHBORS STREET FAIR, a bargain hunter's dream on Fair Oaks between 21st and 26th Streets. 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

MAY 7: JAZZ VIOLIN with Tom Solinger and guest. Meat Market Coffeehouse, 4123 24th St. 8 p.m.

MAY 7: LATIN AMERICAN FIESTA PARADE, proceeding through the Mission District starting at 1 p.m. 648-0680 for details.

MAY 7: Personal SUPER 8 FILM-MAKING for Women. Studio W, 3137 22nd St. Call 641-9299 for schedule.

MAY 7: GLOBAL TRAVEL TOO is celebrating its move from Castro St. to 4005 24th St. with a drawing for two roundtrip tickets to Honolulu. Call for details.

MAY 7: Forum on NONVIOLENCE TRAINING. Bay Area Socialist School, 29 29th St. 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

MAY 8: "EVERGREEN," directed by Victor Saville. An English-style Fred Astaire flick. Noe Valley Cinema, 1021 Sanchez St. 7 p.m.

MAY 8: FACULTY RECITAL, with soprano Ina Chalis Kamendrowsky and pianist Charles Worth. Community Music Center, 544 Capp St. 4 p.m.

MAY 10: "THE MISSION BAY DEVELOPMENT" a strategy for community response. Forum at Bay Area Socialist School, 29 29th St. 8 p.m.

MAY 10: FEMALE SUICIDE ATTEMPTS. Karen Wandrei talks on why women attempt suicide more than men. Modern Times Bookstore, 968 Valencia St. 7:30 p.m.

MAY 11: A presentation on TRAVEL THRU CHINA, featuring a film on China, bicycle tour and slides of Tibet. Sponsored by Global Travel Too at Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. 7 p.m. 647-4304.

MAY 11: FILMS for preschoolers, 10:30 a.m., and for school age kids, 3:30 p.m. Mission Branch Library, 3359 24th St. 824-2910 for reservations.

MAY 12: FRIENDS OF NOE VALLEY monthly meeting to discuss parking problems and solutions. Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey St. 7:30 p.m.

MAY 12: "HEARTSAVER" cardio-pulmonary resuscitation class. Free, in Spanish. Health Center No. 1, 3850 17th St. 6:30-9:30 p.m.

MAY 12: Forum on INTERNALIZED OPPRESSION at Bay Area Socialist School, 29 29th St. 7-10 p.m.

MAY 12: Lecture on "The Secrets of Health and Wealth" sponsored by SUCCESS WITHOUT STRESS study group. Main Library, Larkin and McAllister. 2:30 p.m. Free.

MAY 13: IRISH FOLK MUSIC with Ed Lynch. Meat Market Coffeehouse, 4123 24th St. 8 p.m.

MAY 14: Noe Valley Senior Center RUMMAGE/BAKE SALE. Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

MAY 14: A DAY IN THE PARK FOR LESBIAN MOTHERS. Elk Glen Meadow, Golden Gate Park. Noon - 5 p.m.

MAY 14: John Jeavons, author of *How To Grow More Vegetables*, will speak on ORGANIC GARDENING. The Women's Building, 3543 18th St. 10 a.m.

MAY 14: DIA OE LA BASURA, or Dumpster Day, sponsored by Friends of Noe Valley. Bring all junk, old clothes, furniture, swappables, etc. to the dumpster at Castro and Clipper. 8 a.m. - 2 p.m. Gorilla appearance at noon.

MAY 14: MOTHERS DAY

MAY 15: "THIRD MAN," a post-War thriller directed by Sir Carol Reed and starring Orson Wells. Preceded by "Cops" with Buster Keaton. Noe Valley Cinema, 1021 Sanchez St. 7 p.m.

MAY 15: Evening of poetry and jazz to benefit KALW Radio's "FINAL DRAFT." Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. 4-7 p.m.

MAY 15: An evening of jazz, salsa, blues and poetry with AVOTCJA and GWEN AVERY. Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St. 8 p.m.

MAY 17: "ANIMATION PIE," film program for school-age kids, and discussion of how animation is done. Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey St. 3:30 p.m.

MAY 18: Talk by three women visiting from WOMEN'S PEACE CAMP at Greenham Common, England. Sponsored by War Resisters League-West. The Women's Building, 3543 18th St. 7:30 p.m.

MAY 19: "THE COMIC UNIVERSE" with Larry Gonick, author of *The Cartoon History of the Universe*. Mission Branch Library, 3359 24th St. 4 p.m.

MAY 19: Films made in America during the VIETNAM WAR ERA. "Wilmington" and "Summer 68." Eye Gallery, 758 Valencia St. 6:30 and 8:30 p.m. 431-6911.

MAY 20: "OUT OF THE RAIN," British Isles traditional music. Meat Market Coffeehouse, 4123 24th St. 8 p.m.

MAY 20: FORUM on "Resistance, Registration and the Draft." Sponsored by Bay Area Socialist School at Modern Times Bookstore, 968 Valencia St. 8 p.m.

MAY 20: "FACTWINO MEETS ARMAGEDDON MAN," final performance of this musical farce from the nuclear mad generation. The Farm Theatre, 1499 Potrero Ave. 8:30 p.m. 826-4290.

MAY 20: "PEOPLE'S WAR," a newsreel film made in Vietnam by U.S. anti-war activists. Eye Gallery, 758 Valencia St. 6:30 and 8:30 p.m. 431-6911.

MAY 21: LINDA HIRSCHHORN sings of politics, Judaism, feminism, love and the human condition. Modern Times Bookstore, 968 Valencia St. 8 p.m.

MAY 21: "EMERALD WEB," a concert of flutes and electronic synthesizers. Habitat Center, 3897 18th St. 8 p.m.

MAY 21: More gardening tips with author Tom Bressan, on the advantages and uses of drip irrigation. The Women's Building, 3543 18th St. 10 a.m.

MAY 21: A BENEFIT FOR A.M.E.S. (Association of Salvadoran Women) with music and poels, free childcare. The Women's Building, 3543 18th St. 8 p.m.

MAY 22: PEACE PENTECOST service at the Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. 10 a.m.

MAY 22-29: PEACE WITH JUSTICE week. Daily meditations on peace at 12:30 midday at Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. May 29 at 10 a.m. Peace Sabbath service.

MAY 22: John Marsilas shares two short features from his film collection "DR. JACK" by Harold Lloyd and "SHERLOCK JR." with Buster Keaton. Noe Valley Cinema, 1021 Sanchez St. 7 p.m.

MAY 23: "INSTANT BLUES"—harmonic classes begin. Taught by David Harp. Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. 8 p.m. 282-1953.

MAY 25: EST FOUNDER Werner Erhard will be the featured speaker at Annual Gala Dinner of the California Institute of Integral Studies, 3924 21st St. 7 p.m. Call for invite, 648-2239.

MAY 25: Actress-comedian JUDY SLOAN in a one-woman show. Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St. 8:30 p.m.

MAY 26: Official founding of the NATIONAL WRITERS UNION and celebration with Valerie Miner, Ben Bagdikian, Ishmael Reed, and others. Delancey Street Explorers Club, Divisadero at Broadway, 6-8 p.m. 929-7149.

MAY 27: An evening with ELLIOT PILSHAW and LORIN SKLAMBERG, L.A.'s progressive gay singing duo. Modern Times Bookstore, 968 Valencia St. 8 p.m.

MAY 28: BLUEGRASS by the High Water Band. Meat Market Coffeehouse, 4123 24th St. 8 p.m.

MAY 28: "Memoirs of a Prostitute/Prom Queen," performance poetry with SCARLOT HARLOT and NANCY BLOTTER. Studio W, 3137 22nd St. 8 p.m.

MAY 28-30: PICKLE FAMILY CIRCUS in cooperation with the Council of Parent Participation Nursery Schools, presents its Memorial Day weekend shows at Glen Park. Call 648-3942 for times and advance tickets.

MAY 29: "OPEN CITY," World War II drama directed by Roberto Rossellini (1945). Noe Valley Cinema, 1021 Sanchez St. 7 p.m.

MAY 30: MEMORIAL DAY

Growing Sideways

sometimes it is so easy
to be normal
to call and chat
write the checks
do your dishes
paint your ceiling

one day it becomes hard
you want the papers

the towels thrown scattered
the dishes stacked everywhere

this does not mean
you
are
falling
apart

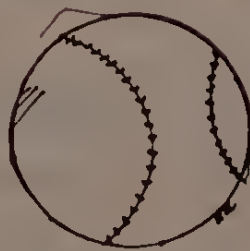
Only
the outside part of you.

—Judith Vasos
©1980

Thank You
to all the Mothers!

The Scoop on
CALENDAR

Please send Calendar items before the 15th day of the month preceding month of issue to the *Noe Valley Voice*, 1021 Sanchez St., San Francisco, CA 94114. Items are published on a space-available basis, with Noe Valley neighborhood events receiving priority.



A Baseball.